REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

The drawings were objectionable for having duplicate reference numbers. A replacement sheet 4/4 is enclosed. Also enclosed is a copy of sheet 4/4 showing the changes in red. The description is changed to accommodate the changed reference numbers.

It is merely a suggestion but interpreting the Examiner's remarks would be greatly facilitated if the figure were identified in which an element is located. Each element need not include a figure reference as long as the same figure is being discussed.

Claims 1–4 were rejected as unpatentable over Hamann et al. The Examiner alleges that the Hamann et al. patent discloses "load sensor 34" (FIG. 7). The Hamann et al. patent describes this element as "automatic latching apparatus." The automatic latching apparatus is operated by latch engaging mechanism 46 (FIGS. 7 and 8), which engages angled face 58 of body 60. Comparing FIG. 1 with FIG. 7 clearly discloses that the platform must be raised an appreciable distance for latch engaging mechanism 46 to engage face 58. It is respectfully submitted that the Hamann et al. patent does not disclose or suggest load sensing, let alone the claimed invention.

Claims 1–5 were rejected as unpatentable over Bruno et al. The Examiner alleges that the Bruno et al. patent discloses "load sensor 222" (FIGS. 8 and 10).

(1) Element 222 is not called a load sensor in the Bruno et al. patent. The Examiner should accept the disclosure of the patent as written and not re-write it to suit a rejection.

(2) Element 222 is a spring that is part of detent follower 220. Spring 222 is not "a load sensor actuated by rotation of the platform as a load is applied." As is clear from comparing FIG. 8 with FIG. 5, spring 222 is not actuated until the platform has been raised a considerable distance. Thus, **elevation**, not rotation, actuates spring 222.

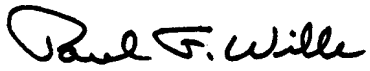
(3) Even if spring 222 were a "load sensor," what good is a load sensor that works only when the platform is raised halfway up the mast?

(4) The Bruno et al. patent discloses that "Spring 222 biases the detent follower 220 toward the center tube 201 or the outer tube 101." In other words, the spring is compressed axially along horizontal shaft 203 (FIG. 8). As shown by FIG. 5 in the Bruno et al. patent, the platform (in phantom line) rotates about an axis parallel to shaft 203 on support tabs 208. There is no connection by which spring 222 can be compressed by rotation of the platform.

It is respectfully submitted that there is no disclosure, no suggestion of the invention in the Bruno et al. patent.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1–10 are in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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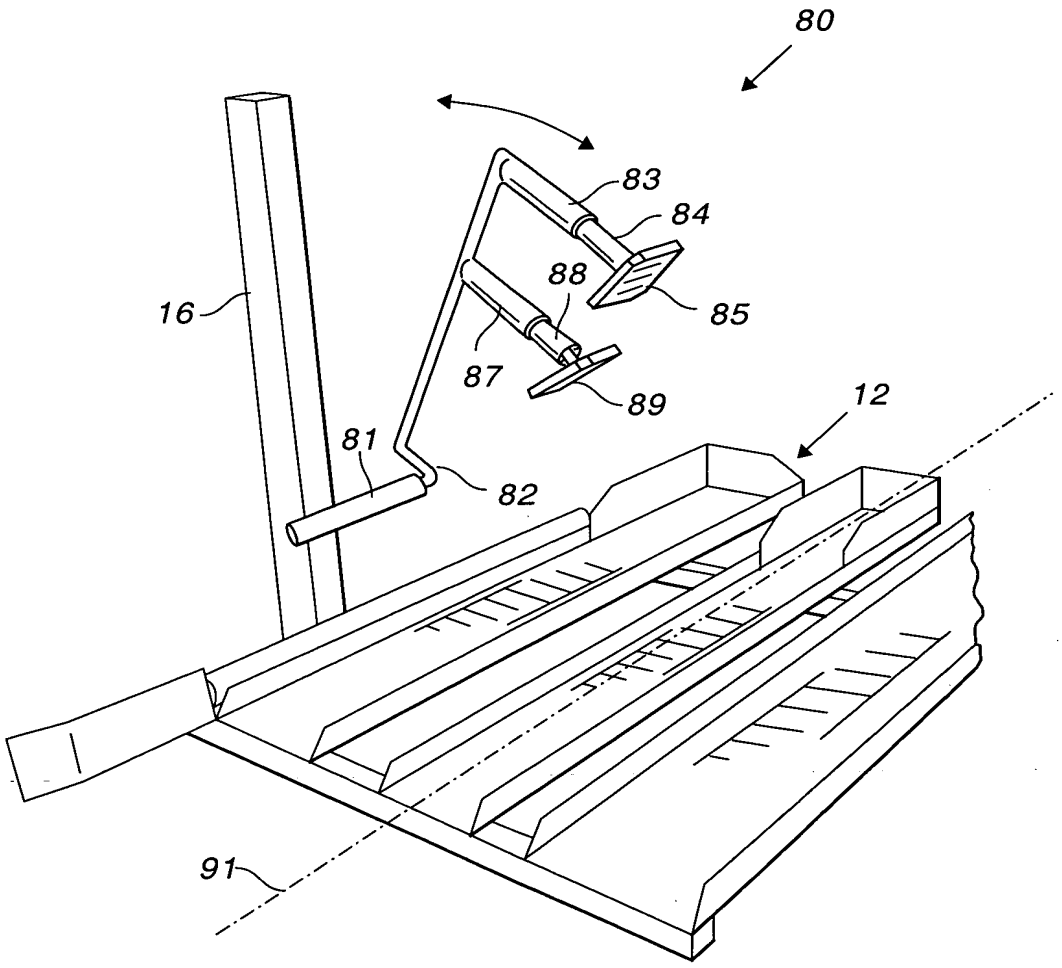

FIG. 7